



Office of the
Washington
State Auditor
Pat McCarthy

Unauditable Governments

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December 1, 2020

Special Report to Legislature



Office of the Washington State Auditor
Pat McCarthy

Special Report on Unauditable Governments

This report is the first under a new state law (RCW 43.09.230), which addresses a small number of special purpose districts that are not complying with basic accountability requirements. The law requires the State Auditor to notify the legislative authority of a county and the State Treasurer of any special purpose districts in their jurisdiction that are determined by the Office of the Washington State Auditor to be unauditable governments.

For decades, local governments have been required to be audited by our Office (RCW 43.09.260) and to submit annual financial reports (RCW 43.09.230).

Independent audits provide essential accountability and transparency for government operations. This information is valuable to management, the governing body and the public when assessing the government's stewardship of public resources. Failure to be audited and provide annual financial reports prevents everyone from knowing how public money is being used, and impairs the decision making of management and elected officials.

In recent years, the State Auditor's Office, the Legislature and local governments have collaborated to address the small number of governments that are not complying with these laws. I am pleased that many governments in danger of being declared unauditable have stepped forward to become accountable. This report identifies only a small number of governments that our Office has deemed unauditable.

Nevertheless, our goal is to ensure that every single government that receives public tax dollars is accountable to the public, and this report is part of that effort. A government deemed unauditable is referred by our Office to the State Attorney General's Office for possible legal action, and new legislation allows for their possible dissolution.

Attached is our report of governments that our Office has declared as unauditable. Thank you for your attention, and your support of public accountability.

Sincerely,

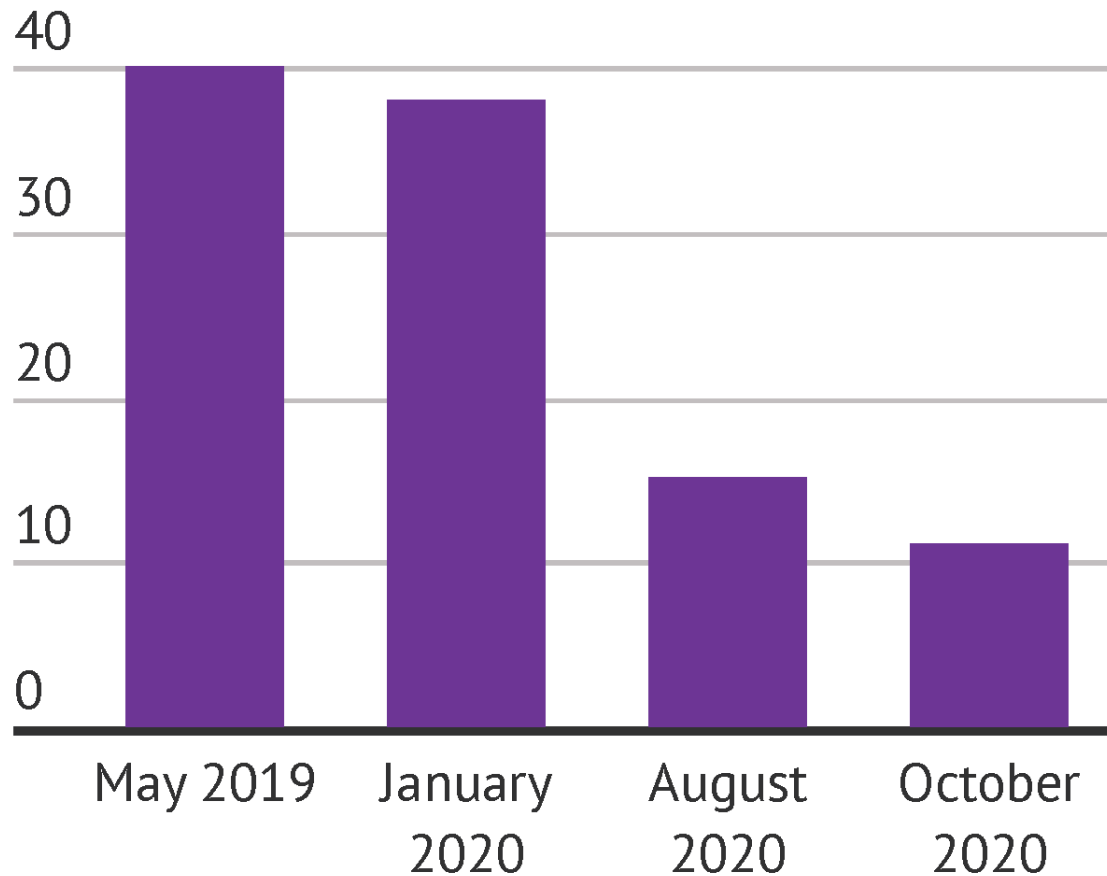
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Pat McCarthy

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Number of Unauditable Governments



Unauditable Governments List



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District	Government Type	County	Report Issue Date (click date for link to report)
Skagit County Dike District No. 19*	Diking/Drainage District	Skagit County	November 18, 2019
Camas Washougal Economic Development Association	Miscellaneous	Clark County	May 14, 2020
Snohomish County Dike and Drainage Improvement District No. 7	Diking/Drainage District	Snohomish County	October 29, 2020
Waitsburg Coppei Flood Control District	Flood Control District	Walla Walla County	October 29, 2020
Pacific County Fire Protection District No. 7	Fire Protection District	Pacific County	October 29, 2020

**This government continues to be unauditable in excess of one year.*

Information



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